



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Public Affairs
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Illinois, Indiana
Michigan, Minnesota
Ohio, Wisconsin

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency NPL Proposal Announcement

Action: Proposal to add the Lower Fox River, Wisconsin, on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a roster of the nation's hazardous waste sites eligible for investigation and cleanup under a federal program called Superfund.

Proposal Information:

As a result of papermill operations, surface water, sediments, and fish from the Fox River have become contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs were used in the manufacture of carbonless copy paper between 1957 and 1971. Several human studies have shown that exposure to PCBs via fish and game consumption has adverse health consequences. Negative health effects from PCB exposure include: impacts on the nervous, immune, circulatory, and hormonal systems, and liver, brain, and skin disorders. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) classifies PCBs as probable human carcinogens. They adhere to the sediments and remain in the environment over time. The potential exposure of the 270,000 people who live in the communities along the river to the PCBs in the river and fish prompted U.S. EPA to propose the Lower Fox River for inclusion on the NPL.

This listing addresses the contamination for the Lower Fox River beginning on the Neenah Channel and Menasha Channel sections of the Fox River, 38.2 miles upstream from Green Bay, and including, at a minimum, 21.5 miles into the bay.

Effective Date: July 28, 1998

Public Comments:

Public comments on the proposed listing will be accepted until September 28, 1998. There will be no public hearing. The Federal Register Notice can be obtained off the internet at http://www.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html. To submit comments, note the site name and mail an original and three copies of your comments (no faxes or tapes) to:

Docket Coordinator
U.S. EPA Headquarters CERCLA Docket Office (5201G)
401 M Street SW
Washington, DC 20460

Comments may also be e-mailed in ASCII format to: superfund.docket@epamail.epa.gov

Availability Sessions:

U.S. EPA will be available to answer questions regarding the Lower Fox River proposed listing during informal, open house-style meetings. The date and locations will be announced soon.



For More Information Contact:

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Information Repositories:

U.S. EPA has established files called information repositories for the Lower Fox River. The information repositories will contain materials supporting the proposed listing as well as documents related to the project and the Superfund Program. The repositories are located at:

Brown County Library
Reference Department
515 Pine Street
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Appleton Public Library
Reference Services
225 North Oneida Street
Appleton, Wisconsin

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reading Room
1015 Challenger Court
Green Bay, Wisconsin
*To make an appointment contact:
Joe Moniot (920) 465-7408.*

Kaukauna Public Library
111 Main Avenue
Kaukauna, Wisconsin

Oshkosh Public Library
Reference Desk
106 Washington Avenue
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

The documents will also be available for review at U.S. EPA Region 5, Records Center, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. In addition, certain documents will be available for review online. Repository and other information will also be posted on the U.S. EPA Region 5, Lower Fox River Website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region5/foxriver/>



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